

Message Text

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11
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12

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R 200123Z NOV 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 964

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, XF

SUBJ: CONTINUATION OF GA DEBATE ON PALESTINE QUESTION

REF: USUN 5441

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. UNGA PLENARY HEARD FROM 14 COUNTRIES ON PALESTINE QUESTION NOVEMBER 19. EGYPT, JORDAN AND PLO USED RIGHT OF REPLY. ALL INTERVENTIONS FOLLOWED PREDICTABLE LINES IN SUPPORT OF REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF 20 AND THE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS TO RETURN TO THEIR NATIVE LAND. ONLY JAPAN DEVIATED IN RESERVING ITS POSITION ON THE REPORT'S RECOMMENDATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. UNGA PLENARY NOVEMBER 19 CONSIDERED THE PALESTINE QUESTION THROUGHOUT DAY. FOLLOWING COUNTRIES SPOKE: ALBANIA, AFGHANISTAN, UKRAINE, MALI, GDR, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ROMANIA, IRAN, TURKEY, JAPAN, UAE, QATAR, TANZANIA, ALGERIA.

3. ALBANIA COMMENDED THE COMMITTEE OF 20 REPORT AND ECHOED UNCLASSIFIED

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CHINA IN BLAMING THE "IMPERIALIST SUPERPOWERS" FOR THE

PROBLEMS OF THE MIDDLE EAST. HE ACCUSED THE USSR OF SENDING THOUSANDS OF JEWS TO ISRAEL TO BE USED AS "CANNON FODDER". OTHER EASTERN EUROPEANS WERE CRITICAL OF ISRAEL IN VARYING DEGREES AND CALLED FOR RECONVENING OF THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE. AFGHANISTAN, MALI, UAE, QATAR, TANZANIA, AND ALGERIA TOOK STRONG-STANDARD LINE IN SUPPORT OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE OF 20 AND PLACED BLAME ON ISRAEL FOR LACK OF PEACE SETTLEMENT. ALGERIA ALSO CASTIGATED THE US FOR "MISUSING" THE RIGHT OF A PERMANENT SC MEMBER TO VETO THE DESIRE OF THE "OVER-WHELMING MAJORITY" OF UN MEMBERS.

4. IRAN AND TURKEY SUPPORTED THE COMMITTEE OF 20 REPORT BUT WERE GENERALLY MODERATE AND LESS CRITICAL OF ISRAEL. IN A CONCILIATORY STATEMENT, JAPAN (ABE) NOTED IT HAD VOTED IN FAVOR OF RESOLUTION ON COMMITTEE'S REPORT PRESENTED IN SC LAST JUNE DESPITE ITS RESERVATIONS, BECAUSE IT WAS APPROPRIATE TO REAFFIRM INALIENABLE RIGHT OF PALESTINIANS TO SELF-DETERMINATION, HE, HOWEVER, EXPRESSED "APPREHENSION REGARDING THE PART OF THE REPORT WHICH RECOMMENDS A PROGRAM OF IMPLEMENTATION." WHILE THE RECOMMENDATIONS MIGHT EVENTUALLY PROVE PRACTICAL, ABE FEARED THAT THEY "MAY PREJUDGE THE DELICATE PROCESS OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS." HIS DELEGATION, THEREFORE, RESERVED ITS VIEW ON THESE RECOMMENDATIONS. HE NEVERTHELESS URGED ISRAEL TO PAY "PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE POSITIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PRINCIPLES IN THE REPORT."

5. EGYPT, JORDAN AND PLO MADE REPLIES TO ISRAELI NOVEMBER 18 SPEECH. EGYPT DESCRIBED HERZOG'S SPEECH AS "BORING AND INSULTING" AND CHARACTERIZED ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA AS "RACIST TWIN SISTERS" DEFYING UN CHARTER. IN REF TO HERZOG'S HISTORICAL RESUME, HE SAID ISRAEL WAS ESTABLISHED AT EXPENSE OF PALESTINIANS. JORDAN BRIEFLY COMMENTED THAT ISRAEL HAD ATTEMPTED TO CONFUSE JORDAN WITH PALESTINE, WHILE PLO REJECTED IN USUAL TERMS NUMEROUS POINTS MADE BY "ZIONIST ENTITY."

6. NINETEEN SPEAKERS REMAIN TO BE HEARD IN DEBATE
NOVEMBER 22.
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